

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-8. (canceled)

9. (currently amended) Fixing system for fixing a shoe to a snowboard, said system comprising:

a base for receiving said shoe, said base comprising

a sole to be fixed flat on said snowboard; and

two lateral wings extending up on the sides of said sole corresponding to the two lateral sides of said shoe;

a heel release comprising an upper part extending vertically to maintain the rear of said shoe, placed transversally at the rear of said base, and two lateral branches provided in the lower part, each lateral branch being interlocked to one of said two lateral wings of said base by a pin,

said heel release being mounted pivotally on said pin under action of a spring enabling said upper part of said heel release to bear against the rear of said shoe; and

a heel piece to be fixed removably to said shoe and comprising two side extensions to be located on each lateral side of the shoe, each said side extension being engaged removably between two stop means provided on each of said two lateral base

wings to prevent said heel piece from sliding along said base, wherein,

when the heel piece is locked into a normal position in the base, each lateral branch has a lower part located under said pin that is housed under the action of said spring above one part of said side extension of said heel piece, to lock said lower part to said one part of said heel piece and to fix said shoe in said base,

said one part of said side extension is one of a catch and a notch and said lower part of said each branch is another of the catch and the notch, the catch and the notch cooperating together to lock said notch to said catch and to fix said shoe in said base.

10. (currently amended) The fixing system according to claim 9, wherein said lower part of each branch is in the form of [[a]] the catch and the part of said side extension is in the form of [[a]] the corresponding notch.

11. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 9, wherein each said spring is an angular action spring surrounding the corresponding pin, one end of said spring pressing on said base and the other end being in contact with the corresponding lateral branch of the heel release in order to cause said lower part of said branch to pivot towards the front of said fixing system.

12. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 9, wherein said stop means are formed by additional

thicknesses of the wings located in front of and behind said side extensions.

13. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 9, further comprising a mobile blade forming a loop behind the back part of the heel release, having one end linked to the back part of the heel release, the other end being free, passing through an opening made in said back part and coming into contact with the rear of the shoe.

14. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 9, wherein the upper part and lateral branches of the heel release are distinct parts, said back part having a base part with two substantially vertical oblong holes, each said oblong hole cooperating with one of said pins, said base part having under each said oblong holes an element that is located under an element of matching shape provided on the corresponding lateral branch at a distance substantially equal to the distance covered by said pins in said oblong holes, said corresponding elements pressing and fitting together when said upper part of the heel release is lifted by the user so as to join together said upper part and said lateral branches of said heel release and permits the rotation of said branches.

15. (canceled)

16. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 14, wherein each element on the base part of the upper part of said heel release is in the form of a hook, the corresponding element of each lateral branch being a flat part.

17. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 9, wherein the upper part of said heel release has on its rear a prehension handle.

18. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 9, further comprising a shoe having on both lateral sides of its sole one flat part adapted to slide into one housing of corresponding shape provided on the front of the corresponding wing of said fixing system base.

19. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 18, wherein each said housing pivots about a pin connecting it to the corresponding wing of said fixing system base.

20. (currently amended) Fixing system for fixing a shoe to a snowboard, said system comprising:

a base for receiving said shoe comprising

a sole to be fixed on said snowboard; and

two lateral wings extending up on the sides of said sole corresponding to the two lateral sides of said shoe;

a heel release comprising an upper part extending vertically to maintain the rear of said shoe, placed transversally at the rear of said base, and two lateral branches provided in the lower part, each lateral branch being interlocked to one of said two lateral wings of said base by a pin,

said heel release being mounted pivotally on said pin under action of a spring enabling said upper part of said heel release to bear against the rear of said shoe; and

a heel piece fixed removably to said shoe, said heel piece comprising lateral side extensions, each of which lateral side extensions being engaged removably between two stop means provided on each of said two lateral base wings to prevent said shoe from sliding along said base, wherein,

when the shoe is locked into a normal position in the base, each lateral branch has a lower part located under said pin that is housed under the action of said spring above one part of said side part of said shoe, to lock said lower part to said one part of said heel piece and to fix said shoe in said base,

said one part of said side extension is one of a catch and a notch and said lower part of said each branch is another of the catch and the notch, the catch and the notch cooperating together to lock said catch to said notch and to fix said shoe in said base.

21. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 20, wherein said shoe has on both lateral sides of its sole one flat part adapted to slide into one housing of corresponding shape provided on the front of the corresponding wing of said fixing system base.

22. (currently amended) The fixing system according to claim 20, wherein said lower part of each branch is in the form of [[a]] the catch and the part of said side extension is in the form of [[a]] the corresponding notch.

23. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 20, wherein each said spring is an angular action spring

surrounding the corresponding pin, one end of said spring pressing on said base and the other end being in contact with the corresponding lateral branch of the heel release in order to cause said lower part of said branch to pivot towards the front of said fixing system.

24. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 20, wherein said stop means are formed by additional thicknesses of the wings located in front of and behind said side extensions.

25. (previously presented) The fixing system according to claim 20, further comprising a mobile blade forming a loop behind the back part of the heel release, having one end linked to the back part of the heel release, the other end being free, passing through an opening made in said back part and coming into contact with the rear of the shoe.

26. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 20, wherein the upper part and lateral branches of the heel release are distinct parts, said back part having a base part with two substantially vertical oblong holes, each said oblong hole cooperating with one of said pins, said base part having under each said oblong holes an element that is located under an element of matching shape provided on the corresponding lateral branch at a distance substantially equal to the distance covered by said pins in said oblong holes, said corresponding elements pressing and fitting together when said upper part of the heel release is lifted by the user so as to join together said upper

part and said lateral branches of said heel release and permits the rotation of said branches.

27. (canceled)

28. (previously presented) Fixing system according to claim 20, wherein each element on the base part of the upper part of said heel release is in the form of a hook, the corresponding element of each lateral branch being a flat part.